GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:35
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2001
WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES
JAYABEN B. THAKKAR;KAMBALAPADU E. KRISHNAMURTHY

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Integrated Watershed Projects running in the country during the Ninth Plan, till date, State-wise;

(b) the funds allocated for Watershed Development Programmes during 2000-2001 and till date and the funds utilised so far, State-wise;

(c) whether the requests have been received by the Union Government to enhance the funds for various Watershed programmes;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government have prepared the new guidelines for development of Watershed Development Programmes in the country: and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu)

(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a) to (f) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.35 for answer on 24th July, 2001.

(a) & (b) There is no scheme called the `Integrated Watershed Projects` scheme as such. However, the Department of Land Resources is implementing an `Integrated Wastelands Development Programme` (IWDP) on watershed basis. No State- wise allocation is made under this Programme. 298 projects are being implemented under IWDP during the Ninth Plan till date. The details of funds released (State-wise) under IWDP during 2000-01 and 2001-02 upto date, is contained in the Annexure I. The projects are implemented over a period of 4 to 5 years on project to project basis. Funds are released in seven instalments. First instalment is released at the time of sanction. Each subsequent instalment is released after utilization of more than 50% funds of the last instalment released. The total sum utilized is calculated after the completion of the projects. However, the release procedure ensures utilisation of funds released to the States.

(c) & (d) As stated above, there is no allocation of the funds to the State Governments. So question of requests from states to enhance the funds does not arise. Under this Programme, the projects are sanctioned during a year keeping in view the funds available in the Department after meeting the liability for the ongoing projects, progress made in on- going projects, spread of treatable wastelands in the States, implementation capacity etc. However, the projects have to be in conformity with the Guidelines on the subject.

(e) & (f) Guidelines for Watershed Development had come into force w.e.f. 1.4.1995. These Guidelines have been revised to provide a greater flexibility, focussed role for Panchayati Raj Institutions, twin track approach, exit protocol, greater community participation in project implementation and post project maintenance etc.. The revised Guidelines will be circulated very shortly.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.35 DUE FOR REPLY ON 24.7.2001

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of IWDP Projects running during Ninth	Funds released during 2000-01 and 2001-

Plan 02 (upto 17.7.01)			
1. ANDHRA PRADESH		26	2077.93
2. ARUNACHAL PRADESH		1	
3. ASSAM		15	772.57
4. BIHAR		1	
5. CHHATTISGARH		5	413.99
6. GUJARAT		20	758.14
7 HIMACHAL PRADESH		17	888.65
8. HARYANA		3	51.23
9. JAMMU & KASHMIR		3	272.06
10. JHARKHAND		3	74.21
11. KARNATAKA		14	432.11
12. KERALA		3	197.22
13 MAHARASHTRA		16	550.54
14 MEGHALAYA		7	142.28
15 MANIPUR		7	379.56
16 MADHYA PRADESH		28	1627.98
17 MIZORAM		7	451.32
18 NAGALAND		12	1039.48
19 ORISSA		21	547.00
20 PUNJAB		1	139.83
21 RAJASTHAN		22	971.86
22 SIKKIM		7	203.00
23 TAMIL NADU		20	809.87
24 UTTAR PRADESH		34	1538.18
25 UTTARANCHAL		5	327.03
TOTAL	298	14666.04	

POSITION NO. 15

MATERIAL FOR SUPPLEMENTARIES IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 35 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 24.07.2001 REGARDING WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES.

PURPORT OF THE QUESTION

The Question asked by Shrimati Jayaben B. Thakkar and Shri K.E. Krishnamurthy, Hon`ble Members of Parliament (Lok Sabha) has been admitted for oral answer in the Lok Sabha at Sl. No. 15. Purport of the question is to solicit information regarding the number of Integrated Watershed Projects running in the country during the 9th Plan till date, funds allocated and utilized during 2000-01 and 2001-02 (till date) for Watershed Development Programmes, State-wise. Further, Members have also sought the information on whether request have been received by the Union Government to enhance the funds for various watershed programmes, and preparation of new guidelines for development of watershed programmes in the country and their details.

In reply to part (a), it has been mentioned that 298 IWDP projects are being implemented on watershed basis in the country during the Ninth Plan, till date. State-wise details are given in the Annexure-I.

In reply to part (b), it has been mentioned that no State-wise allocation of funds is made under IWDP. During last year and current year upto 17.07.2001, an amount of Rs. 146.66 crores have been released for implementation of IWDP projects in the country. The details are contained in the Annexure-I.

In reply to parts (c) & (d), it is stated that no allocation of fund is made under IWDP to the State Governments. Hence request from States to enhance the funds does not arise. Under IWDP, the projects are prioritized in consultation with the State Governments for sanction during the year conforming to the Guidelines for Watershed Development.

In reply to parts (e) & (f), it is stated that the Guidelines for Watershed Development have came into force with effect from 1.4.1995 and these Guidelines have been revised with a view to provide a greater flexibility, focussed role for Panchayati Raj Institutions, twin track approach, exit protocol, greater community participation in project implementation and post project sustenance.

NOTE FOR SUPPLEMENTARIES

BUDGET FOR 1999-2000, 2000-2001 & 2001-2002

(Rupees in Crores)

Programme	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
DPAP	95.00	190.00	210.00
DDP	85.00	135.00	160.00
IWDP	82.00	480.00	430.00
TDET	8.00	12.00	15.00
IPS	2.00	0.50	0.50
Support to NGOs/VAs	2.00	1.00	0.00

Q.No.1 How many projects are being implemented under DPAP and DDP during the Ninth Plan, till date?

Ans. 11,738 projects under DPAP and 5,353 projects under DDP are being implemented during the Ninth Plan, till date. State-wise details are given in the Annexure-II.

Q.No.2 How much funds have been released under DPAP and DDP during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, till date?

Ans. The details of funds released (state-wise) under DPAP and DDP during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, till date are given in the Annexures-III & IV respectively.

Q.No.3 What is the mandate of Department of Land Resources?

Ans. Department of Land Resources was set up in April, 1999 after renaming of the erstwhile Department of Wastelands Development (DoWD). The DoWD was assigned the mandate of reclaiming wastelands in non-forest areas by checking land degradation and putting such lands to sustainable use and increasing availability of bio-mass production especially that of fuel wood and fodder. Formulation of perspective plan for management and development of non-forest wastelands, evolving mechanism for their integrated development and dissemination of appropriate technologies were some of the major functional

responsibility entrusted to the DoWD. In addition, DoLR has been assigned with the subjects/schemes of Land Reforms, Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and National Land Use and Wastelands Development Council (NLWC). With effect from 01.04.1995, IWDP, DPAP and DDP are being implemented through watershed approach under Common Guidelines for Watershed Development.

Q.No.4 What is Watershed?

Ans. A Watershed is a geohydrological unit or an area that drains at a common point.

Q.No.5 What are the main features of the Guidelines for Watershed Development?

Ans. Ministry of Rural Development have approved Common Guidelines for Watershed Development for EAS/DPAP/DDP/IWDP Schemes. Under these Guidelines, the development of watershed projects from ridge to valley will be undertaken by the Project Implementation Agency (PIA). The PIA will be selected by the Zill Parishad/DRDA and will work through Watershed Associations at the Village level. The PIA can be a Panchayati Raj Institution, NGO or Government Department. These instructions have become operational from 1st April, 1995.

Thus the guidelines ensure that people at grass-root level, particularly, the user groups, and self-help groups themselves execute the developmental works in the project area and the Government Departments perform only advisory roles.

Q.No.6 What is the average size of a Watershed Unit?

Ans. On an average, a watershed of approximately 500 ha. can be identified and selected by the watershed development team in consultation with the Panchayat/village community. One PIA can handle a total area of 5000-6200 ha. of land in the watershed projects. The watershed projects under DPAP/DDP would be implemented in the blocks that have been notified by the Govt. of India while under IWDP in non DPAP/DDP blocks.

Q.No.7 What are the main objectives of the Common Guidelines?

Ans. The main objectives of these guidelines are to promote the economic development of the village community which is directly or indirectly dependent on the watershed through conservation of land and water resources, employment generation opportunities for the resource-poor and disadvantaged sections of the community, check land degradation, through soil and moisture conservation measures and aiming at increasing bio-mass production, to encourage restoration of the ecological balance in the village, equitable distribution of usufructs among the rural people particularly Scheduled Castes/Tribes, agricultural labour, shepherds etc. and involvement of Gram Panchayat/rural people of all communities including disadvantaged groups of society and voluntary agencies.

Q.No.8 What are the criteria for sanction of Watershed Projects?

Ans. For sanction of Watershed Projects, the criteria laid down under para 26 of the Guidelines is followed:

i. The project area should include the watershed having preponderance of wastelands.

ii. The project should include preponderance of common lands or the lands belonging to SCs/STs, small and marginal farmers etc.

iii. Watershed which have a large population of SCs/STs dependent on it.
iv. Watersheds which are contiguous.
v. Area should not have been previously taken for comprehensive development.

Q.No.9 What is the approach adopted for Watershed Development Projects?

Ans. Watershed Development Projects adopt the ridge to valley approach for in-situ soil and moisture conservation, afforestation etc.

The Watershed Approach includes :-

v Focus on village common lands
v Institutionalized community participation
v Emphasis on sustainable rural livelihood support systems
v Capacity building as a vital component
v Committee systems at the State and District level
v Decentralized planning & decision making

Q.No.10 What major activities are undertaken under watershed projects?

Ans. Major activities of the Watershed project are :

v Soil & moisture conservation measures like terracing, bunding, trenching, vegetative barriers etc.

v Planting & sowing of multi-purpose trees, shrubs, grasses, legumes and pasture land development

v Encouraging natural regeneration
v Promotion of agro-forestry and horticulture
v Wood substitution and fuel-wood conservation measures
v Measures needed to disseminate technology
v Training, extension and creation of a greater degree of awareness among the participants
v Encouraging peoples` participation

Q.No.11 What is the role of Zilla Parishads/DRDAs under Common Guidelines?

Ans. The Zilla Parishads/DRDAs shall be responsible for implementation of these guidelines at the district level and may constitute a Watershed Development Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Executive Officer/Project Director of the DRDA at the district level. They will approve the Watershed Development Plan and the selection of Project Implementing Agencies, training, community organization, publicity etc. The Zill Parishads/DRDAs shall receive funds directly from the Government of India/State Governments for implementing the Watershed Development Programmes under these Guidelines. Funds for implementing the approved watershed development projects will be released by the Zilla Parishads/DRDAs to the Panchayats/Watershed Development Committees.

Q.No.12 What is role of Gram Panchayats under the Common Guidelines?

Ans. The Panchayat Samiti at the block level shall have the right to monitor and review the implementation of the programme. At the village level, the Gram Panchayat shall be fully involved in the implementation of the programme especially community organization and training programme and use its administrative authority and financial resources to support and encourage the formation of self-help groups/user groups and the operation and maintenance of the assets created and the common property resources such as pasture lands, fisheries tanks, plantation etc. Panchayat Raj Institutions are also to maintain the assets created during the implementation of the project after its completion.

Q.No.13 What is the role of PIA under Common Guidelines?

Ans. Each project implementing Agency (PIA) shall carry out its duties through a Watershed Development Team (WDT) and Watershed Associations (WAs). The WDT shall work full time for the watershed development project in the selected villages. The Watershed Development Team members are responsible to conduct Participatory Rural Appraisal Exercises in each of the selected villages and will collect information about the village community and the watershed and their problems and achievements. Where a watershed is co-terminus with a village Panchayat or its area is confined within the boundaries of a village Panchayat, the Gram Sabha of the Panchayat will be designated as the Watershed Association which will monitor the progress and review the progress, approve the statement of accounts, formation of user groups/self-help groups, resolve differences or disputes between different User Groups/Self-Help Groups etc.

Q.No.14 How NGOs are associated in the task of Wastelands Development?

Ans. As per the Guidelines, the NGOs can be associated as PIAs for executing works under the Watershed Programmes, CAPART sanctions watershed development projects to NGOs/VAs under its Schemes. Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Agencies Scheme of the Department was also transferred to CAPART in 1997. The projects sanctioned under this scheme have also been transferred to CAPART.

Q.No.15 Who coordinates at State level?

Ans. These Guidelines provide for constitution of a State Watershed Programme Implementation and Review Committee at State level to coordinate and review the activities of the programme amongst various Government

Departments and other Agencies involved in Watershed Development activities. The Department of Rural Development is normally the nodal agency to service this Committee.

Q.No.16 How are wastelands formed?

Ans. Wastelands can result from inherent/imposed disabilities such as by location (e.g. proximity to sea, excessive erosion in mountaineous regions, etc.) environment

(arid, semi-arid conditions), change in chemical and physical properties of the soils (saline and alkaline) or management constraints.

Q.No.17 What are the classifications of wastelands?

Ans. The Wastelands Atlas of India-2000 has been brought out by the Department in collaboration with NRSA, Hyderabad.

Ã° Gullied/or ravinous land
Ã° Upland with or without scrub
Ã° Water logged and marshy land
Ã° Land affected by salinity/alkalinity - coastal/inland action
Ã° Shifting cultivation area
Ã° Sands-desertic/coastal
Ã° Wasteland arising out of mining and industrial activity.
Ã° Under utilized degraded notified forest land
Ã° Degraded land under plantation crops
Ã° Degraded pastures/grazing land
Ã° Steep sloping area
Ã° Barren rocky/stony
Ã° Snow covered and/or glacial area

Q.No.18 Wastelands Atlas - 2000
Ans. The National Remote Sensing Agency, Department of Space, Govt. of India, Hyderabad has brought out Wastelands Atlas of India in May, 2000 in which the category-wise wastelands of India has been given and the same is at Annexure-V.

As per reports of the NRSA, Hyderabad on `Wastelands Atlas of India`, the total extent of wastelands in the Country covering 584 districts in 25 States and U.Ts 1:50,000 scale wasteland maps prepared from Landsat thematic Maper/IFS LISS II/III Data has been assessed at 63.85 million ha. which is 20.17% of the total geographical area. State-wise details of wastelands of India is given in the Annexure-VI.

Q.No.19 What are the Wastelands Estimates in the country?

Ans. There are varying estimates of degraded wastelands ranging from 38.4 million ha to 187.00 million ha.. The details of these estimates are given in the Annexure-VII. The DoLR follows the NRSA estimates. According to these estimates, out of 329 m.ha. of total land, 20.17% are the wastelands which are categorized as follows.

Category	Area (m.ha.)	%
Forest	14.065	22.03

Non-Forest	49.787	77.97
TOTAL	63.852	100

Q.No.20What is the procedure for sanction of projects under DPAP/DDP/IWDP?

Ans. Under DPAP/DDP the Programme-wise target of projects to be sanctioned is finalized keeping in view the budget allocation and committed liability for ongoing projects.

Ã° The State-wise distribution is generally made on the

basis of the total DPAP/DDP area in these States as also the

pace of implementation of on-going projects.

Ã° Individual projects are sanctioned by DRDA/ZPs.

Ã° Under IWDP the project proposals received from DRDA/ZPs are prioritized by DoLR in consultation with the State Governments keeping in view the following factors:

(i) Preference being given to the Districts
Ã° not having a single ongoing project and
Ã° having a large area of wastelands

(ii) Low priority being accorded to Districts having two or more ongoing projects.

(iii) The indices reflecting the backwardness /poverty of the area.

Q.No.21 What is the procedure for Monitoring and Evaluation of Watershed Projects?

Ans. Monitoring of the progress of projects sanctioned under various schemes of the Department is accorded very high importance and is carried out in a systematic manner through:

Ã° Periodic progress reports obtained from the nodal

agencies/PIAs etc.

Ã° Utilization of a panel of experts maintained for this purpose for undertaking evaluation of the projects under IWDP.

Ã° Visits undertaken to the States by Area Officers (under the Area Officers` Scheme of the Ministry) to review programmes including the wastelands development projects.

Ã° The On-site inspections by officers of the Department.

Ã° Periodical reviews by Secretary(RD) and other senior officers of the Department. Independent evaluators are nominated during alternate years to monitor project implementation/performance of IWDP projects. On the basis of their evaluation reports, necessary mid-term corrective measures are taken. DPAP/DDP/IWDP projects also evaluated through the State Governments. The expenditure for the purpose is borne by the DoLR and the amount is released to the SIRD concerned. Detailed instructions have been issued in April 2000.

Q.No.22 What are the schemes/programmes being implemented in the Department of Land Resources (DoLR) under wastelands development division?

Ans. In order to fulfil its mandate and to bring wastelands into productive use, DoLR is implementing the following plan schemes:

i. Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP)
ii. Desert Development Programme (DDP)
iii. Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP)
iv. Technology Development, Extension and Training (TDET) Scheme
v. Investment Promotional Scheme (IPS)
vi. On-going Watershed projects under EAS
vii. Support to NGOs/VAs Scheme (since transferred to CAPART in 1997)
viii. Wastelands Development Task Force (WDTF) (since wound up)

Details of the above programmes/schemes are given as under:-

DROUGHT PRONE AREAS PROGRAMME (DPAP)

The programme was launched in 1973-74 to tackle the special problems faced by areas constantly affected by severe drought conditions. Based on the recommendations of the Hanumantha Rao Committee (1994), the programme has been under implementation on a watershed basis since 1995. The responsibility for planning executing and maintaining the watershed projects under the programme is entrusted to local peoples` organization called the Watershed Associations. The projects are implemented over a period of 4 to 5 years.

Upto March, 1999, the funding responsibility under the programme was on a 50:50 basis between the Centre and the State Governments. With effect from 1st April, 1999, the allocation is shared on 75:25 basis between the Centre and the State Governments in respect of new projects sanctioned during 1999-2000.

Presently, 961 blocks of 180 districts in 16 States are covered by the programme. Upto 31.3.1999, 6057 watershed projects were sanctioned under the programme in four different batches and taken up by the States. 2278 and 3371 new watershed projects were sanctioned during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 respectively. Thus, 11,706 watershed projects have been sanctioned under the scheme.

During the current financial year the budget provision under the Scheme is Rs. 210 crores and it is proposed to sanction projects covering an area of about 10 lakh ha. apart from meeting the requirement of funds for the ongoing projects.

DESERT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (DDP)

The Desert Development Programme was started in the year 1977-78 with the objectives of mitigating the adverse effects of desertification and adverse climatic conditions on crops, human & live stock population, combating desertification, restoration of ecological balance by harnessing, conserving and developing natural resources etc. The programme is being implemented through watershed approach under the guidelines for watershed development since 1.4.1995.

Presently, 232 blocks of 40 districts in 7 States are covered under the programme. Identification of DDP blocks was made by the Hanumantha Rao Committee.

Funds under the programme are directly released to DRDAs/ZPs for implementation. Upto 31.3.1999 while funding pattern under the programme for hot arid (Non-sandy) areas was 75:25 between Centre and the State Governments, for hot arid (Sandy) and cold arid areas 100% Central assistance was provided. With effect from 1.4.1999 the ratio of funding has been 75:25 in all projects between Centre and the States.

2194 watershed projects had been sanctioned in different batches under the programme from 1995-96 to 1998-99. During 1999-2000, 1500 watershed projects which included 614 special projects for 10 district of Rajasthan were sanctioned covering an area of 7.5 lakhs ha. During 2000-01, 1659 projects were sanctioned. Out of these 293 special projects were sanctioned for 10 district of Rajasthan for afforestation, sand dune stablisation and shelterbelt plantation.

During the current year the budget provision under the scheme is Rs. 160.00 crores and it is proposed to sanction new projects covering an area of 6 lakh hectares apart from meeting the fund requirements of ongoing projects.

INTEGRATED WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (IWDP)

This programme has been under implementation since 1989-90 and was transferred to Department of Land Resources

(DoLR) (erstwhile Department of Wastelands Development) along with the National Wasteland Development Board in July, 1992. From 1st April, 1995 the scheme is being implemented on watershed basis under the common Guidelines for Watershed Development. The main objectives of the scheme are development of wastelands based on village/micro watershed plans, promoting overall economic development and improving socio-economic conditions of the resource poor and disadvantaged sections inhabiting the programme areas.

The projects under IWDP are generally sanctioned in areas not covered by the schemes of DDP and DPAP. Presently the projects are being implemented in 222 districts of the

country.

IWDP is a 100% centrally sponsored scheme and the cost norm at present is Rs. 4000/- per hectare. However, it is proposed to revise it upward from the existing Rs. 4000/- per hectare to Rs.6000/- per hectare.

192 IWDP projects were sanctioned under the new Guidelines to treat total project area of 18.21 lakhs ha. in 25 States as on 31.3.2000.During 2000-2001, 106 projects covering 11.03 lakhs ha. area were sanctioned. Thus, total 298 projects covering 29.24 lakh ha. are under implementation.

During the current financial year budget provision of Rs. 430 crores exists under the scheme. This includes Rs. 200 crores for EAS (watershed component) and Rs. 20 crores for Department for International Development (DFID) assisted projects in the States fo Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. It is proposed to sanction new projects covering an area of 8 lakh hectares during the current financial year apart from meeting the liability of ongoing projects. The state-wise priority lists are being finalized in consultation with State Secretaries.

TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT, EXTENSION & TRAINING (TDET) SCHEME

The scheme was launched during 1993-94 with a view to promoting the development of suitable technology for the reclamation of wastelands in order to secure sustained production of food, fuelwood, fodder etc. the main objectives of the scheme are development of data base for wasteland, operationalisation of appropriate cost effective proven technologies for development of various categories of wastelands and dissemination of research findings and appropriate technologies for promoting wastelands development.

Under this scheme 100% central grant is admissible to implement projects on wastelands owned by Government, Public Sector Undertakings, Universities, Panchayats etc. In the case of projects included for the development of wastelands or private farmers/corporate bodies, the cost of the project is required to be shared on the basis of 60:40 between the Government and the beneficiaries.

Upto 31.3.2001, 104 projects covering an area of 33363 ha. were sanctioned under the programme. Out of these, 33 projects have since been completed/closed.

An allocation of Rs. 15 crores has been made for the scheme during the current financial year.

INVESTMENT PROMOTIONAL SCHEME (IPS)

In order to attract the participation of the corporate sector and financial institutions etc. for enhancing the flow of funds for development of non forest wasteland, this scheme was launched in 1994-95. The major thrust under the scheme is on the development of degraded lands belonging to small and marginal farmers including SCs/STs.

Upto 31.3.2001, 26 projects covering an area of 993 ha.

have been sanctioned under the scheme.

During the current financial year budget provision of Rs. 0.50 crore exists under the scheme.

ON-GOING WATERSHED PROJECTS UNDER EMPLOYMENT ASSURANCE SCHEME (EAS)

Earlier guidelines of EAS stipulated that 50% of the funds released under DPAP and DDP and upto 40% of the funds released under EAS were required to be spent on watershed development projects and other related activities. However, as a part of a recent exercise aimed at rationalizing the structure of various schemes, EAS was retained mainly as a wage employment scheme and sanctioning of new watershed projects was discontinued w.e.f.1.4.99.

The States had, in the meanwhile, created liabilities in respect of watershed development projects already sanctioned. In accordance with the latest figures the total liability (including state share) for the completion of these watershed development projects covering an area of 63.50 lakh ha. worked out to about Rs. 1500 crore, The Government, therefore, decided that the aforesaid amount may be released in three years. Rs. 301.55 crore and Rs.257 crores were released to the various States during 1999-2000 and 2000-01 respectively. A provision of Rs 200 crore has been made to cater to these projects during 2001-02.

SUPPORT TO NGOs/VAs SCHEME

The objective of the scheme is to create awareness, encourage the application of appropriate technologies for the development of wastelands and provide training for increasing capability and capacity building. Extension and publicity are other important components of the scheme. This scheme alongwith the sanctioned projects except 12 ongoing projects has since been transferred to Council for Advancement of Peoples` Action & Rural Technology(CAPART) and new projects under the Scheme are now being sanctioned by that agency. Sufficient funds have been placed at the disposal of CAPART for the ongoing schemes. Hence funds were not released for these projects to CAPART. As against a budget provision of Rs.1.00 crores, the allocation was reduced to 0.40 crores at RE Stage. The revised allocation was, however, utilised in full. No budget provision has been made for this scheme in BE 2001-02.

WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE (WDTF)

The scheme was implemented using the services of ex-servicemen for development of 1200 hectares of Wastelands in the ravines of Chambal in Morena district of Madhya Pradesh since 1994. The Force consisted of 300 ex-servicemen under the command of the Territorial Army and Group of 15 Army/Territorial Army Personnel. The objective of the Scheme was to provide employment to ex-servicemen and also develop wastelands through afforestation including
(i) soil and moisture conservation and
(ii) plantation and its protection. The total area of 1200 hectares of ravine land has been developed and the scheme has been wound up on 31.12.99 as it has achieved its objective. Thus far, expenditure to the extent of Rs. 474 lakh has been incurred on this project during the period 1994-95 to 1999-2000.

ANNEXURE VIII

Schemes/programmes being implemented in the Department of Land Resources (DoLR) under wastelands development division? ...

ANNEXURE-VII

DETAILS OF VARIOUS ESTIMATES OF DEGRADED/WASTELANDS

SL.NO.	SOURCE	AREA (M. Ha.)	ESTIMATED/SCIENTIFIC (E) (S)
1.	National Commission on Agriculure (NCA-1976)	175.00	E
2.	Dte. Of Economics & Stastics, Deptt. of Agri. & Coopn. (1978-79)	38.40	E
3	Deptt. of Environment & Forests (B.B. Vohra, 1980)	95.00	E
4	Ministry of Agriculture (1982)	175.00	E
5	National Wastelands Development Board (MoEF, 1985)	123.00	E
6	National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning, ICAR (1994)	187.00	E
7	Society of Promotion of Wastelands Development (SPWD-1984)	129.58	E
8	Indian Agriculture in Brief, Deptt,. of Eco. & Statistics (1994) 7	174.96	E
9	National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), March, 2000	63.85	S

ANNEXURE-II

NUMBER OF PROJECTS BEING IMPLEMENTED UNDER DPAP & DDP DURING NINTH PLAN

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of DPAP Projects being implemented during Ninth Plan	No. of DDP Projects being implemented during Ninth Plan
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH	2509	362
2.	BIHAR	129	
3.	CHHATTISGARH	431	
4.	GUJARAT	1008	1095
5.	HARYANA		433
5.	HIMACHAL PRADESH	148	203
6.	JAMMU & KASHMIR	164	348
7	JHARKHAND	482	
8.	KARNATAKA	920	507
9.	MAHARASHTRA	1615	
10.	MADHYA PRADESH	1583	
11.	ORISSA	303	
12.	RAJASTHAN	471	2405
13.	TAMIL NADU	699	
14.	UTTAR PRADESH	816	
15.	UTTARANCHAL	265	
16.	WEST BENGAL	195	
TOTAL		11,738	5,353

Includes 614 special projects sanctioned during 1999-2000 and 293 special projects sanctioned during 2000-2001 for 10 districts of Rajasthan State.

ANNEXURE-III

FUNDS RELEASED UNDER DPAP DURING 2000-01 & 2001-02 TILL DATE

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Funds released under DPAP during 2000-01 Till date	Funds released under DPAP during 2001-02
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH	47.60	1.14

2. BIHAR	1.00	-
3. CHHATTISGARH	6.81	
4. GUJARAT	14.27	1.13
5. HARYANA		
5. HIMACHAL PRADESH	2.47	
6. JAMMU & KASHMIR	3.69	
7 JHARKHAND	6.86	
8. KARNATAKA	14.26	1.32
9. MAHARASHTRA	18.99	0.82
10. MADHYA PRADESH	24.95	6.77
11. ORISSA	6.82	
12. RAJASTHAN	9.81	0.18
13. TAMIL NADU	9.08	
14. UTTAR PRADESH	18.38	
15. UTTARANCHAL	3.24	
16. WEST BENGAL	1.35	
TOTAL	189.58	11.36

ANNEXURE-IV

FUNDS RELEASED UNDER DDP DURING 2000-01 & 2001-02 TILL DATE

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Funds released under DDP during 2000-2001 Till date	Funds released under DDP during 2001-02
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH	6.52	
2.	GUJARAT	24.45	2.55
3.	HARYANA	8.11	2.05
4.	HIMACHAL PRADESH	4.51	
5.	JAMMU & KASHMIR	7.84	
6.	KARNATAKA	5.02	1.06
7	RAJASTHAN	78.54	21.82
TOTAL		134.99	27.48

DAYS`S SERIAL NO.15

Note for Supplementaries to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.35
to be answered on 24.07.2001

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DROUGHT PRONE AREAS PROGRAMME (DPAP)

Background

DPAP was launched in 1973-74 to tackle the special problems faced by those areas constantly affected by severe drought conditions. Based on the recommendations of the Hanumantha Rao Committee (1994), the programme has been under implementation on a watershed basis since 1995. The responsibility for planning, executing and maintaining the watershed projects is entrusted to local peoples` organization specially constituted for the purpose. In view of the large area to be treated and the levels of available funding, the programme is taken up on a continuing basis for a period of about 5 years.

Objectives

Ã° To minimize the adverse effects of drought on the production of crops, livestock and productivity of land, water and human resources for drought proofing of the affected areas

Ã° To promote the overall economic development and improve the socio-economic condition of the resource poor and disadvantaged sections inhabiting the programme areas.

Ã° To take up development works by watershed approach for land development, water resource development and afforestation/pasture development.

Coverage under DPAP

Presently 961 blocks of 180 districts in 16 States

namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhatisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal and West Bengal are covered by the programme. (Details are at Annexure). The most recent identification of DPAP Blocks was made by the Hanumantha Rao Committee.

Funding Pattern

Until March 1999 the funding responsibility was being shared on a 50:50 basis by the Centre and the State Governments. With effect from 1st April 1999, however, the allocation is shared on 75:25 basis between the Centre and State Government in respect of new projects sanctioned during 1999-2000. In respect of on-going projects that were sanctioned prior to April 1999, the old funding pattern continues. The cost norms adopted under DPAP for various eco-systems depending on the severity of the problem are as under:

Sl.No	Ecosystem Type	Per Ha Average Cost(Rs.)	Watershed Project Cost (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Semi-Arid Region	4,000	20.00
2.	Dry-Sub-Humid Region	3,000	15.00
3.	Dry Sub-Humid (Hill) Region	4,000	20.00

Physical and Financial Performance

Under DPAP, 6057 Watershed Projects were sanctioned in four different batches and taken up by the States upto 31.03.99. 2278 new watershed projects were sanctioned to the Programme States during 1999-2000 and 3371 new watershed projects were sanctioned during 2000-01. The table at Annexure indicates the number of Watershed Projects sanctioned since the introduction of the common Guidelines. Similarly, the table at Annexure indicates the year-wise release of funds for these projects.

Budget and Target of DPAP

As against a budget provision of Rs 95 crore in the year 1999-2000, a sum of Rs 190 crore was allocated for the programme during the year 2000-2001. The entire amount was released to various States for implementing the Programme. A sum of Rs.210 crores has been allocated under DPAP for release to the Programme States during 2001-2002. It is proposed to sanction projects to cover an area of about 6 lakh hectares this year.

DESERT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (DDP)

Background

Over the years, the increase in human and livestock population in drought prone and desert areas has placed the

natural resources of certain very arid areas under relatively greater stress. The major problems are continuous depletion of vegetative cover, increase in soil erosion and fall in ground water table. All these factors account for diminishing productivity of land and loss of natural resources. The situation would have been worse but for the introduction of a highly focussed area-specific development programme in these regions. On the recommendations of the National Commission on Agriculture, in its Interim Report (1974), and the Final Report (1976), the DDP was started in the year 1977-78. The programme was started both in the hot-desert areas of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana, and the cold-desert areas of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. From 1995-96, the coverage has been extended to a few districts in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. The programme is being implemented through Watershed Approach under the Guidelines for Watershed Development w.e.f. 1.4.95.

Objectives

Ã° To mitigate the adverse effects of desertification and adverse climatic conditions on crops, human and livestock population, combating desertification.

Ã° To restore ecological balance by harnessing, conserving and developing natural resources i.e. land, water, vegetative cover and raising land productivity.

Ã° To implement developmental works through the watershed approach, for land development, water resource development and afforestation/pasture development.

Coverage under DDP

Presently 232 blocks of 40 districts in 7 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Gujrat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka and Rajasthan are covered under the programme. The most recent identification of DDP Blocks was made by the Hanumantha Rao Committee.

Funding Pattern

DDP is a Centrally Sponsored Programme and funds are directly released to DRDAs)/ZPs for implementation. Upto 31.3.1999 the Central share for different types of project area (based on the nature of the ecosystem) was as under: -

S.No.	Type of Ecosystem	Central share
1.	Hot Arid (Non-Sandy) Areas	75%
2.	Hot Arid (Sandy) Areas	100%
3.	Cold Arid Areas	100%

With effect from 1.4.1999 the ratio of sharing of funding, as between the Centre and the States, has been changed to 75:25 in all projects being sanctioned on or after 1.4.1999. The project cost is Rs. 22.5 lakh per project in respect of the Hot Arid (non-sandy) areas, and Rs. 25 lakh in the other areas.

Physical and Financial Performance

Under DDP, 2194 watershed projects had been sanctioned in different batches from 1995-96 to 1998-99 and taken up by the Programme States. During 1999-2000, a total of 1500 watershed as well as special projects (Cost: about Rs 325 crore, Area: 7.5 lakh ha.) were sanctioned.

Out of the 1500 new projects, sanctioned during the year 1999-2000, 614 were special projects sanctioned in 10 districts of Rajasthan, namely Churu, Nagaur, Jodhpur, Barmer, Sikar, Jhunjhunu, Pali, Jalore, Bikaner, and Jaisalmer to combat desertification. These projects were specifically earmarked for afforestation, sand dunes stabilization and shelterbelt plantation. It was decided by the Govt. that in these 10 districts, while 50% of the funds allocated to a district may be used for normal watershed activities, the remaining 50% should be earmarked for the aforementioned three activities.

During 2000-01, a total of 1659 projects were sanctioned at a total cost of about Rs.415 crores. Out of these 293 special projects were sanctioned for the 10 districts of Rajasthan for afforestation, sand dune, stabilization and shetterbelt plantation. The table at Annexure indicates the number of watershed projects taken up since the introduction of new guidelines. Similarly, the table at Annexure- indicates the year-wise release of funds for the implementation of DDP.

Budget and Target

As against the budget-allocation of Rs 85 crore for DDP in the year 1999-2000, a sum of Rs 135 crore was allocated during the year 2000-2001. The entire amount was released to the Programme States. As mentioned earlier, 1659 projects were sanctioned during 2000-01 against the target of 1600 projects. For the current financial year, the target of new projects has been fixed at 800 projects. The budget outlay has been increased to Rs.160 crores.

INTEGRATED WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (IWDP)

Background

This programme has been under implementation since 1989-90, and was transferred to DoLR (earstwhile DoWD) along with the NWDB in July 1992. From 1 April 1995, the scheme is being implemented on a watershed basis under the Guidelines for Watershed Development. It is expected to promote the generation of employment in the rural areas besides enhancing the participation of people at all stages - leading to sustainable development of land and equitable sharing of the benefits.

Objectives

Ã° Development of wastelands based on village/micro-watershed plans. The stake-holders prepare these plans after taking into consideration the capability of land, site

- conditions and local needs.

Ã° Promoting the overall economic development and improving the socio-economic condition of the resource poor and disadvantaged sections inhabiting the programme areas.

Coverage

The projects under IWDP are generally sanctioned in Development Blocks not covered by DDP and DPAP. The programme is being implemented in 222 districts of the country. DoLR is also initiating measures aimed at enabling a greater role for Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), Self-help Groups (SHGs) and user-groups particularly the land less from the Scheduled Castes (SCs) & Scheduled Tribes

(STs) and other backward classes, in watershed programmes.

Funding Pattern

IWDP is a 100% Central Sector Scheme and the cost norm at present is Rs 4000/= per ha. The cost norm for watershed projects is proposed to be revised upwards from existing Rs. 4000 per ha to Rs 6000 per ha.

Physical and Financial Performance

192 IWDP projects sanctioned under new guidelines

to treat total project area of 18.21 lakh hectares were at various stages of implementation in 25 states as on 31.3.2000. During 2000-01, 106 projects covering 11.03 lakh hectares of area were sanctioned. Thus a total of 298 projects covering 29.24 lakh hectares were under implementation. The table at Annexure VIII indicates State-wise sanction of projects and the area covered under IWDP. Similarly, the table at Annexure indicates details of the release of funds for the implementation of these projects.

Budget and Target

As against a budget provision of Rs 82 crore for IWDP in the year 1999-2000, a sum of Rs 480 crore [including Rs 350 crore for the EAS (Watershed) and 10%- earmarking for the North Eastern States] was allocated during the year 2000-2001. The outlay was reduced at RE Stage from Rs.480 crores to 387 crores. However, the outlay for IWDP projects was kept at the BE itself, i.e. Rs.130 crores. New projects covering 11.03 lakh hectares were sanctioned during the year against the target of 8 lakh hectares. The Budget for 2001-02 has been kept at Rs.430 crores including 230 crore for EAS(WS) and Rs.20 crores for DFID assisted projects for Andhra Pradesh and Orissa.

ON-GOING WATERSHED PROJECTS UNDER EMPLOYMENT ASSURANCE SCHEME (EAS)

Earlier guidelines of EAS stipulated that 50% of the funds released under DPAP and DDP and upto 40% of the funds released under EAS were required to be spent on watershed development projects and other related activities. However, as a part of a recent exercise aimed at rationalizing the structure of various schemes, EAS was retained mainly as a wage employment scheme and sanctioning of new watershed projects was discontinued w.e.f.1.4.99.

The States had, in the meanwhile, created liabilities in respect of watershed development projects already sanctioned. In accordance with the latest figures the total liability (including state share) for the completion of these watershed development projects covering an area of 63.50 lakh ha. worked out to about Rs. 1500 crore, The Government, therefore, decided that the aforesaid amount may be released in three years. Rs. 301.55 crore and Rs.257 crores were released to the various States during 1999-2000 and 2000-01 respectively. A provision of Rs 200 crore has been made to cater to these projects during 2001-02.

TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT, EXTENSION AND TRANINING (TDET) SCHEME

This Scheme was launched during 1993-94 with a view to promoting the development and extension of suitable technologies for the reclamation of wastelands in order to secure sustained production of food, fuel-wood, fodder etc.

The objectives of the Scheme include:

(a) Development of data base for wastelands,

(b) Operationalization of appropriate, cost effective and proven technologies for development of various categories of wastelands, and

(c) Dissemination of research findings and appropriate technologies for promoting wastelands development.

Under this scheme, 100% central grant is

admissible to implement projects on wastelands owned by Government, Public Sector Undertakings, Universities, Panchayats etc. In the case of projects included for the development of wastelands of private farmers/ corporate bodies, the cost of the project is required to be shared on the basis of 60:40 between the Government and the beneficiaries.

84 projects (Area: 25830 ha. Cost: Rs 6011 lakh) were sanctioned under the programme upto 31.03.2000. Out of these, 33 projects have since been completed/closed. During the year 2000-01, 20 new projects (Area: 7533 ha. Cost: Rs 2279 lakh) have been sanctioned. As against a budget provision of Rs 08 crore in 1999-2000, a sum of Rs 12 crore was allocated during the year 2000-2001. However, at RE

Stage, the allocation was reduced to 10.87 crores. The actual releases during 1999-2000 and 2000-01 were 869.52 lakhs and 1098.45 lakhs respectively. An allocation of Rs.15.00 crores has been made for the scheme in the BE 2001-02.

INVESTMENT PROMOTIONAL SCHEME (IPS)

The Scheme was launched in 1994-95 in order to attract the participation of the corporate sector and financial institutions etc. with a view to enhancing the flow of funds for the development of non-forest wastelands.

The principal objectives of the scheme include:

(i) to facilitate/attract/channelise/mobilize resources from financial institutions, banks, corporate bodies and individuals for development of wastelands in non-forest areas belonging to the Central and State Governments, Panchayats, Villages communities and private farmers;

(ii) to facilitate production and flow of additional bio-mass including farm forestry products used as raw material for different types of industries and horticulture/commercial plantations.

The scheme has now been restructured, and the guidelines revised. In the revised scheme, a major thrust has been given for the development of degraded lands belonging to small and marginal farmers including SCs/STs.

16 projects (Area: 771 ha. Cost: Rs 787 lakh) were sanctioned under the programme upto 31.03.2000. During the year 2000-01, 10 new projects (Area: 122 ha. Cost: Rs 152 lakh) have been sanctioned. Subsidy released under the scheme during 1999-2000 and 2000-01 were 23.00 lakhs and

9.73 lakhs respectively. A provision of Rs 0.50 crore has been made during the year 2001-2002.

SUPPORT TO NGOs/VAs SCHEME

The objective of the scheme is to create awareness, encourage the application of appropriate technologies for the development of wastelands and provide training for increasing capability and capacity building. Extension and publicity are other important components of the scheme. This scheme alongwith the sanctioned projects except 12 ongoing projects has since been transferred to Council for Advancement of Peoples` Action & Rural Technology(CAPART) and new projects under the Scheme are now being sanctioned by that agency. Sufficient funds have been placed at the disposal of CAPART for the ongoing schemes. Hence funds were not released for these projects to CAPART. As against a budget provision of Rs.1.00 crores, the allocation was reduced to 0.40 crores at RE Stage. The revised allocation was, however, utilised in full. No budget provision has been made for this scheme in BE 2001-02.

WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE (WDTF)

The scheme was implemented using the services of ex-servicemen for development of 1200 hectares of Wastelands in the ravines of Chambal in Morena district of Madhya Pradesh since 1994. The Force consisted of 300 ex-servicemen under the command of the Territorial Army and Group of 15 Army/Territorial Army Personnel. The objective of the Scheme was to provide employment to ex-servicemen and also develop wastelands through afforestation including
(i) soil and moisture conservation and
(ii) plantation and its protection. The total area of 1200 hectares of ravine land has been developed and the scheme has been wound up on 31.12.99 as it has achieved its objective. Thus far, expenditure to the extent of Rs. 474 lakh has been incurred on this project during the period 1994-95 to 1999-2000.